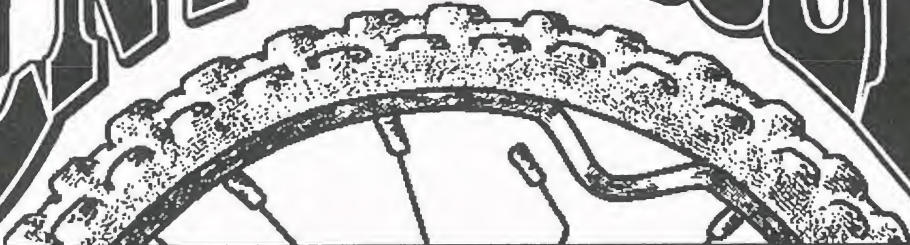
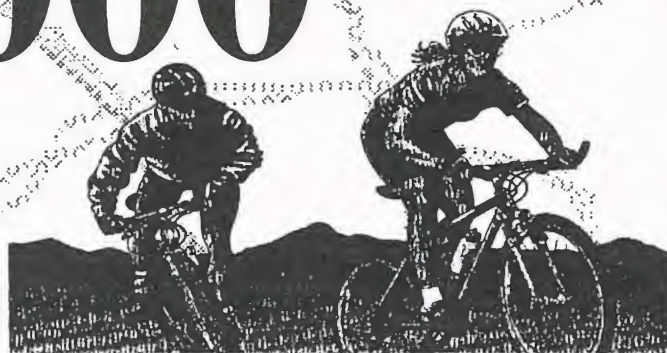


BENT RIM BUGLE



#51

2000



MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION

www.mmba.org

1990

MMBA MISSION STATEMENT

To promote responsible mountain biking and to work toward the goals of common land access and natural resource protection through interaction with policy makers, the cycling industry, race promoters, mountain bikers and other trail users.

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MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION

FESTINATM
WATCHES

Championship Points Series Schedule

April 16

www.tailwind.net

Yankee Springs / Deep Lake Time Trial
Deep Lake Campground/Tailwind Ent. (248) 634-6178

May 7

www.tailwind.net

Fort Custer Stampede Cross-Country
Augusta, MI/Mike Needham (616) 731-4078

May 21

Addison Oaks Spring Classic Cross-Country
Leonard, MI/Oakland County Park (248) 858-4647

June 18

www.tailwind.net

Ruby Campground Cross-Country
Port Huron, MI/Tailwind Enterprises (248) 634-6178

July 9

www.funpromotions.com

Pando Challenge Cross-Country
Pando Ski, Belding MI/Fun Promotions (616) 453-4245

July 16

www.tailwind.net

Bloomer Park Cross-Country
Rochester, MI/Tailwind Enterprises (248) 634-6178

August 13

www.tailwind.net

Big M Cross-Country
Manistee, MI/Tailwind Enterprises (248) 634-6178

August 27

www.tailwind.net

Duane Chambers Memorial Fort Custer Time Trial
Augusta, MI/Mike Needham (616) 731-4078

September 10

www.tailwind.net

Stoney Creek Cross-Country
Stoney Creek, MI/Tailwind Enterprises (248) 634-6178

September 17

Addison Oaks Fall Classic Cross-Country
Leonard, MI/Oakland County Park (248) 858-4647

September 30

www.iceman.com

Glacier Gorge Cross-Country (AMBC)
Gaylord, MI/Iceman Promotions (231) 922-5926

October 22

www.funpromotions.com

Cannonsburg Challenge Cross-Country
Cannonsburg MI/Fun Promotions (616) 453-4245



New Classes!

Master Elite - 35 and up age group
Single Speed-no age groups-lots of fun!

October 29

Season Finale!

Gravity Brothers
(602) 926-4009

Garland Hammer X-Country / Cactus CupTM
Lewiston MI/(517) 786-2211 ext.1313

You do not have to be an MMBA member to ride in any of the races listed.

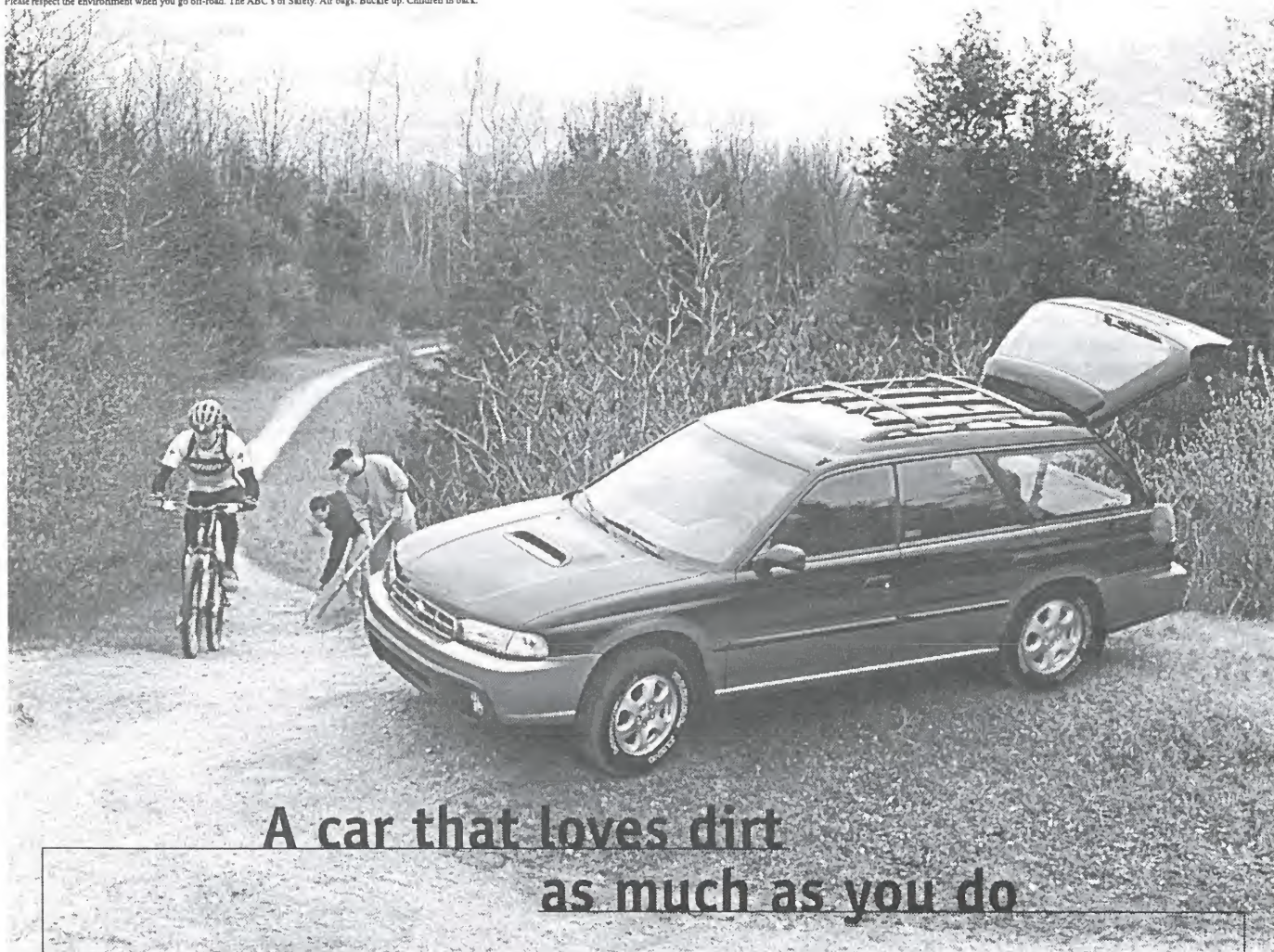
However, membership/race tabulation fee is required to be in the points series.

Always check with promoter for information, current start times, race applications, pre-registration dates and date of events. See MMBA CPS rules for eligibility (Feb. 2000). All dates on public properties are subject to land manager considerations and it is up to the rider to make sure that times and dates are current and correct. Preregistration dates are determined by individual promoters and it is up to the rider to obtain current and correct preregistration dates from each promoter. It is highly recommended that you renew your membership in MMBA and pay the \$5.00 tabulation fee prior to the first race you want to count in the MMBA Festina CPS, regardless of when your current membership expires. Only your best results from half the races + one will be counted for the series - contact the MMBA for a complete set of official rules.

Name _____	Phone _____	MEMBERSHIP
Address _____	City _____	Individual \$22.00
State _____ Zip _____	E-mail _____	Family \$27.50
Chapter Affiliation / <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal		Patron (Free-Tshirt) \$50.00
◊Holly/Flint ◊Southwest ◊Northwest & UP		Benefactor (2 Free T-Shirts) \$100.00
◊Northeast ◊Potawatomi ◊Western		BIKE SHOPS
◊Pontiac Lk. ◊Southeast ◊Mid-State		Regular \$110.00
◊Check ◊Charge ◊New Address		Patron (Free-Tshirt) \$250.00
Name on Card _____		Benefactor (2 Free T-Shirts) \$500.00
Account # _____ Exp. _____		MMBA Point Series Entry(For Racers Only)
Signature _____		add \$5.00 per-rider / Age(s) _____
Checks Payable to MMBA / Mail to: MMBA		Name(s) _____
4217 Highland Rd. Box 268 Waterford, MI 48328		M / F Date of Birth _____
Sign up on the web: www.mmba.org / Surf it for latest results, events, news, and activities!		Class: Beginner / Sport / Expert / Elite

The MMBA is a charitable nonprofit organization tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by the IRS only.

Please respect the environment when you go off-road. The ABC's of Safety. Air bags. Buckle up. Children in back.



A car that loves dirt as much as you do



With the Subaru Outback® there's no better way to get to your favorite trailhead. Whether it's a trail care day or an evening spin, we understand the International Mountain Biking Association's passion for keeping your wheels in the dirt. So, if you love to get your hands dirty as much as we do – contact your local chapter of the MMBA to learn how you can help care for existing paths and, whenever appropriate, build new ones. To get all the dirt on The Beauty of All-Wheel Drive stop by your nearest Subaru dealer or dig into our website at www.subaru.com.

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The Beauty of All-Wheel Drive.®

BENT RIM BUGLE

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Dan Clark/Dwain/Lisa Lazaroff
Music

Frank Sinatra/Liquid Bread/Glen Miller/
Materials provided by a limited universe
with unlimited potential - Use them wisely.

This mag. is printed on recycled paper
"...a bike in the garage is safe and clean, but
that's not what a bike is for..." Variation of a
saying by Grace Murray Hopper

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Editorial contributions and photos are welcomed but cannot be returned unless accompanied by proper postage. Send contributions to: MMBA/BRB P.O. Box 29 Belmont, MI 49306. The BRB provides free classified ads to MMBA members and advertising space to shops and manufacturer members at reduced rates. For deadlines and rates contact the address/e-mail/web site above or call 616-785-0120.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the MMBA, Publisher, DNR, Forest Service, MMBA members, dealers and/or sponsors. All articles may be edited a little or a lot...it's mountain biking not world hunger...copyright September 1999 all rights reserved...and all that...but mostly and "clearly the most unfortunate people are those who must do the same thing over and over again, every minute, or perhaps twenty to the minute. They deserve the shortest hours and the highest pay." John Galbraith

This zine was established in 1986 by:

Craig Stutsky, Bonnie Alsum and Steve Pruett.

Southwest Chapter

Members of the Southwest Chapter were saddened to learn Duane

A. Chambers, Jr. was killed in a car crash on Dec 16, 1999. Duane

had just turned 22 a month earlier. He was an avid mountain biker, and was a member of Team Billy's racing team. Duane could be seen several times a week riding the trails at Fort Custer. He said it was one of his favorite places to be - that or snowboarding. Duane was easy to spot with his fiery red hair, his blue Billy's jersey, his always present smile and his enthusiasm for the moment. Duane was a young man that any parent would be proud of. We will miss him. Duane's parents have established a memorial fund for the trails at Fort Custer. This will be handled through the Southwest Chapter. Donations may be made to the Duane Chambers Memorial Trails Fund, SWMMBA, PO Box 19311, Kalamazoo, MI 49019. **Also in memory of Duane, the Fort Custer Time Trial is being renamed the Duane Chambers Memorial Time Trial. Southwest Chapter proceeds from this race will be contributed to his Trail Fund.**

The Southeast Chapter

The abandoned rail line which would connect the West Bloomfield rail trail to the upcoming GTW trail (Auburn Hills, Rochester, Romeo, Richmond) is in peril!

This line passes through three communities: Keego Harbor, Sylvan Lake, and Pontiac. Canadian National (CN) Railroad is being pressured to sell the Sylvan Lake section. CN may give the Michigan Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC, <http://www.railtrails.org/MI/>) another month to find funding for the purchase. The land in the other communities is not under such a tight timetable. The RTC has until about April to convince the State or local communities to purchase this land.

RTC presented this rail trail to the DNR's Trust Fund but it was denied. It is automatically sent to the Trust Fund group for a second chance. The RTC is in constant contact with Phil Wells of the DNR. If more information becomes available, I'll keep you posted. In my opinion, this trail connector is critical.



So, what can we do? *Please* write a letter to the Sylvan Lake City Council and tell them how valuable this rail trail would be to you and your family. A short simple letter is all that's necessary. If you've driven through Sylvan Lake on Orchard Lake Road, you know how unsafe these roads are for biking and other recreational uses.

You should send your letter to:

Sylvan Lake City Council
1820 Inverness St.
Sylvan Lake, MI 48320

You can also give public comment at the next City Council meeting, which is January 12th at 8pm. They meet at the Sylvan Community Center at 2456 Pontiac Drive. If you have more questions you can call the City Offices at (248) 682-1440.

There's a map available online to the Community Center which also shows the existing rail-line:

<http://maps.yahoo.com/py/maps.py?Pyt=Tmap&YY=6764&addr=2456%20Pontiac%20Drive&city=Sylvan%20Lake&state=MI&sl=42.6195&sln=-83.3348&zip=48320-1662&mag=9&cs=9&newmag=8>

Also, I plan on sending a letter to the CN Railroad pleading for more time on this small section of line. I will send the letter on behalf of the MMBA.

Let's keep the pressure on!

Todd Scott

MMBA SE President

Mid-State Chapter

Mid-State Chapter is working on expanding the mountain bike trails in Burchfield Park southwest of Lansing. The park is part of the Ingham Co. Park system. Look for new technical trails in 2000. Contact Dennis Hansen 517-349-4683 if you want to be put on the list to help build the trails!

Holly/Flint

Rick Jerrell

I'd like to Thank...those of you from our Holly/Flint, Chapter Membership for the outstanding turnout at the Public Meeting regarding Pontiac Lake, at the Oakland County Sportsmen's Club. The Pontiac Lake

(Chapter Chatter Continued on pg. 16)

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99

FESTINATM

WATCHES

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS SERIES RESULTS

Class					
<u>Elite</u>	<u>total</u>				
WEINERT, JEFF	1587	PUTT, DAVID	7	MULDERS, RICHARD	16
ARCHER, TOM	1105	FARMER, BRYAN	0	FALLON, JOHN R	10
JOHNSON, CURTIS R	1085	HILLS, STEVE	0	BERTA, ED	0
MCCRACKEN, MATTHEW	988	LAMPART, ERIC	0	DOERHOEFER, BASIL	0
FLORES, RANDY A	969	LIDDY, DAVID	0	HEADY, DOUGLAS	0
KAREW, JASON, M	947	<u>Expert-Senior III 30-34</u>	<u>total</u>	LUCZYNSKI, DAVE	0
BOWMAN, DANIEL R	924	NOONAN, RICK	881	SPAULDING, TIM	0
PARKER, JAMIE	711	GARDULSKI, MIKE	709	WATKINS, CULLEN	0
HENDERSHOT, JOREL	620	RITTER, TERRENCE T	657	<u>Expert-Master 45+</u>	<u>total</u>
CRANSTON, JOE	617	FOSHAG, ROBERT E	642	EDDY, KEN	805
GRAHAM, DEREK, S	567	COLLINS, TIM	601	WARD, DAVID E	804
HILLS, STEVE	245	DUNN, PAUL	575	ALDERSON, RANDY	408
GRUMELOT, CAREY R	191	MCMURRAY, JIM	484	BOTENS, WILLIAM	389
HOLMES, WILLIAM	135	SOLIDAY, DAVID	400	SIBEL, MARK	367
DUBOIS, KEVIN	49	WINOCUR, PAUL A	190	CRANE, GERALD	318
MERRITT, KURT	2	FERGUSON, KEITH M	188	CAMP, DON	274
HUBBARD, JOSH	1	LOSEY, TOD A	162	FARNSWORTH, TERRY	271
EDWARDS, BRIAN	0	STAMOS, EUTHEMIOS, N	157	PATTON, CLIF	148
<u>Expert-Senior I -24</u>	<u>total</u>	TOMPKIN, ERIC	139	FLEMING, ART	101
HASLICK, NATHAN	681	MORRIS, JEFFREY	136	FRANTZ, LEE T	0
WALKER, JEREMY S	545	JACKSON, MARK	135	GRONDIN, PAUL	0
MAIER, JEFF, R	401	VIAENE, JEFFERY, C	94	<u>Expert Women - All</u>	<u>total</u>
THOMAS, TREVOR	260	BICKNELL, RICK	68	WILSON, SHELLY L	801
LITTLE, IAN S	254	LINTON, CRAIG	39	HAUSBECK, SHARI	792
FREIDINGER, TODD	238	WILSON, STEVEN	7	KOCH, JODY	730
WARD, JESSE	215	JONES, JASON ARIC	3	TALASKI, DIANE	568
CAMP, KEVIN	192	O'CONNELL, DANA P	0	PEDERSON, LESLI	552
WALP, MATTHEW	153	<u>Expert-Veteran 35-44</u>	<u>total</u>	VAN ABBEMA, JULI	543
SHEEDY, BRIAN	138	JAMES, JIM	936	COLLINS, KAREY	386
PIKE-BIEGUNSKI, MACIEJ	122	WOJTALA, JOHN	760	JACKSON, DEBRA	303
HAMILTON, NATHAN	115	JURVELIN, D J	686	KANIPE, JENNIFER	63
WENBERG, ANDY	54	HOLLIS, DAVID	686	AKEMANN, ALEXANDRA	0
MCKEY, BRETT	48	PARKER, JEFF	531	<u>Sport-Junior -14</u>	<u>total</u>
BUDACKI, JOEL	38	HENDERSHOT, MARK	527	COSTAS, DAVID	118
OMLAND, FORREST M	18	DALY, MATT	524	JOHNSON, GREG	114
PATTON, DAVE	0	MOSER, TRAVIS	509	DEAVILA, DAVID	50
<u>Expert-Senior II 25-29</u>	<u>total</u>	HENDERSHOTT, RICK	478	<u>Sport-Junior 15-18</u>	<u>total</u>
WELLISLEY, BART	919	SCOTT, TODD	450	MULLEN, TRAVIS	485
BRZUCHANSKI, JOSEPH R	665	ERSPAMER, DARREN	436	PAWLAK, MIKE	339
POTTER, AARON D	647	GILLIAM, MARK A	425	DUBOIS, TIM	306
LAYMAN, STEPHEN	580	MARTIN, JAMES A	380	SIUDARA, PETER	254
HERSBERGER, ANTHONY	446	CORNELL, DOUGLAS	351	SWIFT, STEVE	199
GARLAND, ERIK	382	MARTIN, JAMES P	335	CODY, MICHAEL	197
EVES, ERIC J	357	LIDDY, JON	306	MARINO, DOMINICK	173
SLOUGH, ADAM	351	RIEGE, KEITH	223	RENNER, SCOTT	110
SMALLWOOD, HUGH	314	LAROE, KEVIN	210	WARNERS, TIM	87
DIFALCO, TIM	256	ROE, GORDON F	210	WENTZEL, ZACH	35
SWEENEY, DAVID	140	HAHN, TOMMY-KIDDE	191	HOEFT, RYAN	23
COLFLESH JR, JIM	86	FRANCE, DANIEL J	106	JOHNSON, CHRIS D	21
GARDULSKI, PAUL	63	BRAMLETT, MICHAEL	99	LAVALLEY JR, DAVE	0
KACZMAREK, BRIAN T	56	VERNON, RANDY D	70	MAGEE, TYLER	0
SELLE, ROBERT	35	MAGLE, JERRY	63	WIERZBA, NICK	0
		ROGERS, MICHAEL	47	<u>Sport-Senior I 19-24</u>	<u>total</u>
		JEURINK, LARRY	25	ECKART, BRIEN	464

CPS results continued

WHITE, NICHOLAS J	445	KUNITZER, JEFF	130	HOUGABOOM, BILL	96
BUSH, NATHAN T	365	LIVINGSTON, JOHN	126	MEYERS, SCOTT	78
WEIR, ANDREW	274	WILKES, DAVID A	123	LINING, THOMAS P	75
SHONG, MICHAEL	273	WAGNER, NEIL	103	ROODVOETS, TIM	72
OSBORNE, GREG	131	LEHNER, JON J	96	MAHER, DAMIAN P	62
HOGLE, RICK	95	COLE, MARK D	82	ANDERSON, RONALD L	58
ROSS, CORY	88	ROBINSON, MARK J	80	PLUTA, JAKE	56
BYLO, CLINTON	66	SHENFELD, JOE	72	BOWMAN, ROBERT R	32
BUSSEMA, CHRIS	65	LENTING, DAVID M	70	ROSINSKI, MICHAEL, A	32
SCHUTZ, TIMOTHY	39	PHILIPSON, STEPHEN	62	ALLUMS, DAVID C	26
SWAIN, ROBERT	7	MANUEL, JAY	61	HITE, SCOTT R	25
EDIN, JACOB	0	BRUNNER, BJOERN	56	BRADBURY, ROBERT	23
SHEEHAN, BO	0	COLE, BRADLEY	56	GROSE, TIM A	21
SMITH, GAVIN	0	SMITH, RON	51	MITCHELL, TIM	12
<u>Sport-Senior II 25-29</u>	<u>total</u>	MASSERANT, LARRY C	50	ROWAN, ROBERT B	10
LUMMIS, JASON	510	TENNISWOOD, JEFF	30	COLLINS, CURTIS	4
STACK, RON	467	RULISON, BOB	25	VNASUMEREN, CRAIG	2
PHILLIPS, BRENT	427	DION, MICHAEL R	22	ALMQUIST, TERRY	0
MEIKLE, JEFFREY J	364	BERGMAN, DAVE	20	BRINK, DANIEL	0
GUY, ED	295	ELLISON, ERIC A	20	BROWN JR DO, DAVID C	0
WISSMAN, RICHARD	262	RITTER, JAY	20	CAZABN, ROBERT, J	0
BERNER, MATT	121	AIROLA, STEVE	16	DALE, RANDY	0
HARRIS, BRIAN	83	SHELLENBERGER, DAVID	15	GEERLIGS, TERRY, L	0
GAGNER, TODD	71	SMITH, MARK, CHRISTO.	12	GOTTSCHALK, WERNER	0
BUCK, BRIAN	65	BONZHEIM, DONN	11	GOTTSCHALK, WERNER	0
CRISCUOLO, TIMOTHY J	64	WASKIEWICZ, DAVID	9	JONES, JAY L	0
HAY, THOMAS A	54	LANDERS, MARK	6	KULKA, HARVEY J	0
BAKER, ARTHUR L	42	SANBORN, RICK	5	OLIVEIRA, GARY A	0
SPOON, JOSHUA	39	WELSH, TIM	4	SAUNDERS, BRIAN K	0
CESA, ERIC	38	BAILEY, DOUG	0	SNOOK, CURT	0
JOHNSON, BRAD	37	BARKER, MARK	0	THEAKER, NORMAN	0
KARS, JOHN	29	BROWN, MASON R	0	TYRRELL, SHAWN	0
BIEREMA, BYON	28	CAREY, RODNEY	0	VLAD, DOUGLAS	0
BERO, MATTHEW	24	ELTSCHLAGER, TIM. M	0	WALBRIDGE, JAY	0
POTAS, EDWARD A	20	LIBBRECHT, TODD	0	WATSON, DAVID	0
GROSSBAUER, SCOTT	17	MARENGHI, MIKE	0	<u>Sport-Master 45-54</u>	<u>total</u>
KLINE, RYAN E	16	MCDANIEL, TROY	0	KIHLSTRAND, TERRY	451
WAYNE, CHRISTOPHER	15	PIERCE, BRANDON	0	BUCKALEW, CHUCK	448
CASARI, TIM	9	ROZEGNAL, JOHN	0	LINDHOUT, BILL	324
CLAXTON, SCOTT	0	SHERMAN, BOB	0	WATT, WESLEY	259
DECIUS, SCOTT A	0	WAS, CHRISTOPHER	0	KOSONOVICH, DAVE	220
FONS, BILL	0	WATSON, ROBERT E	0	NEEDHAM, MICHAEL J	216
JACKSON, DAVID	0	<u>Sport-Veteran 35-44</u>	<u>total</u>	DUTHIE, SCOTT	210
MCGILL, SCOTT P	0	STEWART, CALVIN	522	HOLLENS, JIM G	192
SELOW, JAN T	0	BAILEY, PAUL, M	463	MASSEY, DENNIS	147
STOREN, JOHN, W	0	LEHR, PAT	447	WENBERG, JIM	130
TEDDER, CRAIG M	0	OSTROWSKI, ARTUR	439	KARLIS, RON	89
<u>Sport-Senior III 30-34</u>	<u>total</u>	MCLAREN, SCOTT	358	OWENS, TOM	74
BOWER, SCOTT	551	SULLIVAN, TODD P	352	ECKHARDT, BOB	56
CHARLES, STEPHEN	480	GODDARD, CHRIS	318	MARTUS, DAVID	54
COTTON, ROB	468	SCHNEIDER, JOEL	313	SWAIN, CHARLES D	43
ZELAZNY, SCOTT	427	MCCLELLAND, KEVIN D	242	ALLEN, GORDON	0
JERRIS, BRADLEY D	419	CONNOR, DAVID M	240	BLANKENSHIP, RANDY, P	0
DEANGELIS, GARY	339	BOWER, GREG	219	CARDINAL, JAY	0
SIETING, TODD	324	JOHNSON, NICKOLAS	211	GARLAND, JOHN, A	0
MITCHELL, BRYAN	292	WILLIS, SCOTT T	193	LAWTON, WAYNE M	0
GLEESON, JON	280	KALINA, RICHARD	153	MCKEY, BARRY	0
GERONIMO, JULIUS	278	DOLATA, RANDY W	141	REAUME, DOUGLAS, A	0
INMAN, ROGER	271	CLARK, STEVE	140	SHEEHAN, TIM	0
INOUE, KENTARO	258	LAVALLEY, DAVE	136	STEVENS, JAMES	0
CYPORYN, DOUGLAS	234	KEANE, VIN	121	<u>Sport-Grand Master 55+</u>	<u>total</u>
GRANT, KEVIN	196	LIVINGSTON, KEVIN K	120	VANDECAR, DENNY	236
MALZAHN, ERIC	186	SCHOONOVER, RICK	110	MOLNAR, ALAN	85
GRAYSON, JOHN	163	ZANKE, JAMES	108	JONES, THOMAS N	61

CPS results continued

RICE, LAVERN A	50	HUGHES, CALEB	0	HERBSTER, MATTHEW R	0
ACORD, BILL	0	MUELLER, TODD	0	LEACH, RAYMOND	0
GELESKO, RON	0	STONER, JAMES C	0	RINKER, DAVID A	0
SCHELTEMA, DAVID A	0	TIERNAN, JOE	0	SAINT, JEFF	0
<u>Sport-Clydesdale</u>	<u>total</u>	<u>Beginner-Senior II 25-29</u>	<u>total</u>	SCHMITT, DENINE, R	0
GOODRICH, MARK	459	BARRY, NICK	307	VIVIANO, ROBERT	0
KOTCHI, KEVIN J	374	HUSTED, CHAD	264	WEST, DANNY	0
KRENTZ, ERIC K	258	STENZEL, CORY	258	<u>Beginner-Veteran 35-44</u>	<u>total</u>
ISHAM, SCOTT	150	WOHLSCHLEGEL, JEFF	155	MULLEN, JON	333
STEPHENS, JEFF	84	SAUER, MICHAEL	124	KAPPLINGER, KARL R	311
ANDERSON, SCOTT	43	LARRANCE, DEVEN	113	GRASL, TOM	225
POWLENKO, MARK	26	BLOSER, NATE	111	NILO, FRANK	200
COSTAS, JAY	22	MAK, YUK	95	ELDEN, JOSEPH G	149
BRICKEY, JHON	21	KISH, KEVIN A	75	GUYNN, JOHN	136
DRAWE, PATT	0	FABER, JERRY	64	HAYES, CRAIG	134
JONES, CRAIG J	0	WATSON, MIKE	59	KRALL, STEVEN D	108
PURDIE, RUSSELL	0	JOHNSON, SCOTT F	52	TURNBOW, JAMES	96
<u>Sport-Tandem</u>	<u>total</u>	MEETZE, KYLE	45	KINLEY, STEVE	92
SCURR, ROBIN	433	SCHROEDER, STEVE	40	MURPHY, DENNIS B	88
MILLER, JOEL	298	DONOHUE, PATRICK	28	WILSON, GENE	47
AEBLI, FRED	241	SIBBLE, JOHN	28	DWYER, KEVIN	37
FALL / LAKATOS,	55	WOJCIECHOWSKI, DOUG	26	BRANDENBURG, JOESEP	28
<u>Sport Women -29</u>	<u>total</u>	HORAN, DAVID M	23	STEVENS, MARK	21
DENNETT, DANIELLE	415	SHORE, KYLE	15	HOAG, STEVEN R	20
STEFFEN, AMY	133	BALLINGER, TIM	10	STANDRIFF, SKIP	13
PASMA, AMY MARIE	76	DELIZ, DON	6	GEFFEN, BRUCE	2
BREEDING, VICTORIA	36	POIRIER, JASON A	1	BUDBEAMER, PEDRO	0
HAMILTON, CHRISTINE	0	CHAMBERLIN, ERIC	0	CATALFANO, WAYNE	0
SELOW, LISA	0	CHAMPOUX, ANDRE S	0	CONLEN, PAT	0
WAS, KRYSTAN K	0	CLEMENT, STEVE	0	DRAKE, STEPHEN	0
<u>Sport Women 30+</u>	<u>total</u>	DAVIS, JUSTIN	0	KAUFFMAN, MICHAEL	0
MARTIN, LINDA	439	DAY, ALLEN M	0	KRAUS III, MARK R	0
SAMSON, JULIANNE	362	FOX, PAUL	0	LAMP, FRANK	0
KING, KAREN A	273	FULTS, PAUL	0	MAISE, PETER	0
FERNANDO, DIANA	154	GILBERT, CHAD	0	MENDELS, CHRIS	0
VALKEMA, COLLEEN	133	LATHER, JASON	0	NORRIS, EARL	0
SHELLENBERGER, LAUR	48	MCDERMOTT, PATRICK	0	RICE, JEFF	0
JARSKI, LAURIE A	43	PHILLIPS, BRANDON	0	ROHRER, CRAIG M	0
CRISPIN, DEBBIE	0	RUSHFORD, BILL	0	WHITE, DANIEL, S	0
FINCH, SHIRLEE	0	TIMMINS, BENJAMIN	0	<u>Beginner-Master 45+</u>	<u>total</u>
MIKE, ALAYNA	0	WASKIEWICZ, DAN	0	FRISBIE, RAY	239
PISCHEA, MICHELLE A	0	WEIKART, CURT A	0	POIRIER, DAVE	197
WALBRIDGE, STEPHANIE	0	<u>Beginner-Senior III 30-34</u>	<u>total</u>	MAKI, TOM	180
<u>Beginner-Junior -14</u>	<u>total</u>	HARBERTS, JOHN	317	CHISHOLM, DON	134
KLINE, RYAN	283	FLORY, KEN	315	BRADLEY, THOMAS	121
FRISBIE, ERIK	151	VEGA, ARMANDO	282	SKURKA, JOSEPH	71
SCHUITEMA, WARREN	68	WERTH, CHRIS	129	SANDBORN, DAN	35
BOWMAN, MICHAEL A	40	PHILLIPS, JIM	121	JABLONSKI, GREG	22
HUYGHE, ALEXANDER	39	ESKELINEN, BRIAN	99	OEHLER, RON	13
BAKER, JOSH	34	BARABAS JR, ZOLY	77	BLOOM, WILLIAM	0
CROSS, JOHN	0	TURNBOW, WM SCOTT	75	BURNS, MARK	0
DEBRUINE, MARINUS	0	BOWMAN, JOHN, J	36	COFFMAN, JAMES R	0
WRIGHT, KYLE	0	DORER, JAMES D	33	FREEBURGER, BRUCE	0
<u>Beginner-Junior 15-18</u>	<u>total</u>	BOYD, MIKE	23	HANKS, FREDERICK M	0
FRISBIE, BRIAN	305	FLICK, SCOTT	18	KLOECKOER, MICHAEL	0
CLARK, LOUIS	216	HUDSON, WESLEY A	18	MACKEY, DAVID A	0
HUYGHE, ERIK	77	SCHOON, STEVE	13	RUSSELL, KEVIN P	0
FREELAND, DENNIS D	36	HOLMES, MICHAEL	2	SKELTON, WILLIAM M	0
WILKINSON, JACOB	33	ASHBURY, STEVE	0	SPANIOLO, MIKE	0
MANES, ALAN	0	BAUER, KURT S	0	<u>Beginner-Clydesdale</u>	<u>total</u>
<u>Beginner-Senior I 19-24</u>	<u>total</u>	BREHMER, BILL	0	ANDERSON, SCOTT	226
JACQUEHIN, JEROME	130	DEMAREST, WILLIAM L	0	PURDIE, RUSSELL	190
BLISS, GREGORY A	26	DOKMANOVICH, ANDY	0	BELVILLE, SCOTT	186
RIDDLE, ANDREW J	18	GILLIES, BRIAN	0	EDWARDS, ROBERT, A	138

CPS results continued next page...

CPS results continued

POWLENKO, MARK	27
BRICKEY, JON	0
COSTAS, JAY	0
DRAWE, PATT	0
JONES, CRAIG J	0
KRENTZ, ERIC K	0
STEPHENS, JEFF	0
<u>Beginner-Tandem</u>	<u>total</u>
AEBLI, FRED	0
FALL/LAKATOS	0
SCURR, ROBIN	0
<u>Beginner Women -14</u>	<u>total</u>
HENDERSHOT, CHENOAH	224

HENDERSHOT, KETURA	188
BERTA, JENNI	0
<u>Beginner Women 15-29</u>	<u>total</u>
CATALDO, CRISTIN	223
ESKELINEN, KERILIN	220
BUTKIEWICZ, MELISSA	211
LONDON, MELISSA	149
NATYSHAK, NICOLE	127
SCHOLL, CLARA	22
CLAXTON, LEANNE	0
DAIY, JILL S	0
GLOWNIA, ROBYN	0
MILLER, GEORGEINA	0
<u>Beginner Women 30+</u>	<u>total</u>

FARBER, DONNA JO	244
BENJAMIN, SANDRA	204
USITALO, JULIANNA	166
SANBORN, BETH	29
HAWKINS, LANA, M	26
JOHNSTON, CAROL	24
FUERSTENAU, MARTHA	0
MARTIN, MARY ANN	0
MOHRING, MARY ANN	0
TYRRELL, FRAN	0
WASSERMANN, APRIL	0

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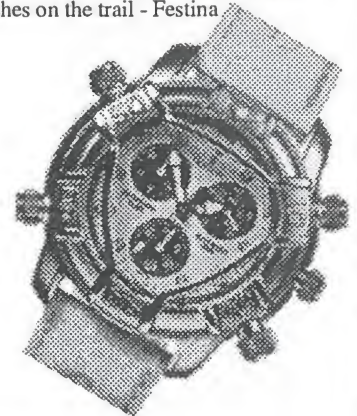
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Logo 2000 - It's a new look

**But still the same MMBA that has been working on your behalf
to develop, care for and protect the trails you love to ride.**

The Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) has unveiled a new logo just in time for the new millennium. "The new logo is a more hip take-off on the organization's old logo", said MMBA President Jason Aric Jones. "The (new) logo is more stylized, and we think that Madison Avenue will be more receptive to it", Jones added. Jones also indicated that some Board members were concerned that the mountain biker in the old logo bore too much resemblance to the cartoon characters "Terrance and Phillip" from the television series "South Park". The new MMBA logo is on the cover of this issue and available for viewing at www.mmba.org.

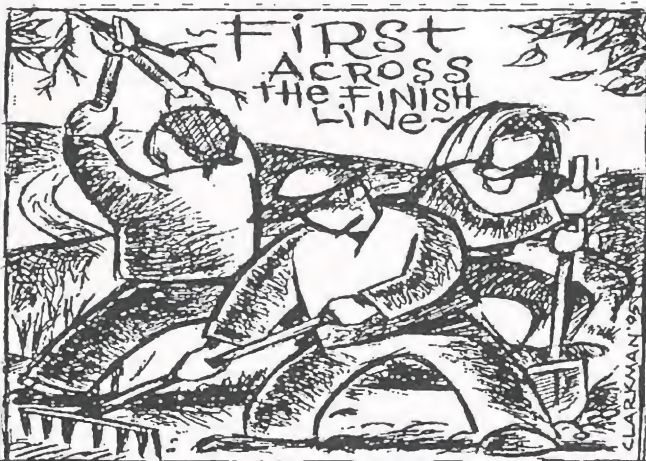
**February 6, 2000
Springfield Oaks
County Parks
Oakland County
Davisburg, MI**

Wilderness Trail Bikes is proud to be a sponsor of the 1999 MMBA First Across the Finish Line Trail Maintenance Program and recognizes the hard work and dedication that Volunteers put into keeping trails open and to build new trails. Congratulations are in order to all trail workers who did their part and helped to make mountain biking better for everyone. You are the first ones out to clear and repair the trails after winter is over. You are the first ones to lend a friendly hand and to reach out to other trail users. You are the ones who brave the bugs and the mud



**1999-2000
Wilderness Trail Bikes
First Across The
Finish Line Awards***

**1999 Total Volunteer
Hours 5,211****



and the heat to make sure that the trails are ready to ride. Day after Day. Year after year. Wilderness Trail Bikes salutes you at the 2000 MMBA Annual Meeting.

This year the First Across The Finish Line program Volunteers have the honor of being part of something even more special as the Program will now honor Ed Berta, who was fatally injured this past spring while participating in a county sponsored Adopt A Road Program. The road lead to Ed Berta's favorite local trail-head and his untimely passing caught everyone within the MMBA off-guard, especially his loved ones and friends in the Holly/Flint Chapter of the MMBA. The MMBA Board unanimously passed a resolution renaming the Annual Award to hence-forth be known as the Ed Berta First Across The Finish Line Awards, celebrating Ed's many contributions to his local community, as well as his tireless work on behalf of the MMBA through the Holly/Flint Chapter. Thank you Ed, thank you to all Volunteers who will support the memory of Ed as you care for the very trails he and all of us love to ride.

***With Special Thanks To Park Tools For Their
Support Of MMBA Volunteer Activities!**

****And counting as all of the MMBA chapter hours were not turned in at the time of this publication Great Job All!**

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RockShox is Sponsoring MMBA Annual Meeting

The Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) is happy to have the bicycle suspension technology company, **RockShox**, as the **title sponsor of its 2000 Annual Meeting and Swap Meet**.

The event, a traditional winter gathering of Michigan and regional mountain bike enthusiasts, will take place Sunday, February 6, 2000 at the Springfield Oaks Conference Center in Davisburg, Michigan. Members, as well as the general public, are encouraged to attend. Events will include the annual pre-meeting Blizzard Blaster fun ride, the 1999 Festina-MMBA Championship Point Series Awards Ceremony, the 1999 Wilderness Trail Bikes First Across the Finish Line Trail Maintenance Series Awards, MMBA chapter awards, dealer, industry, land manager, and chapter informational booths, prize drawings and giveaways, Tailwind Indoor Time Trials, a public swap meet (MMBA members, sell your old goods for a small donation to the MMBA), and more!

As a part of the meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to win lots of **RockShox schwag**, including a variety of **RockShox soft goods and suspension forks from the SID and Judy lines!**

More information on the MMBA web site, www.mmba.org. Visit **RockShox on-line at www.rockshox.com**. Mark your calendars now! Be there, or be apathetic in supporting your Michigan mountain bike trail systems! For more information, contact the MMBA at gommmba@aol.com, or, 616-785-0120.

MMBA Annual Meeting Bike Swap & Sale

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February 6, 2000

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*Must be an MMBA Member to sell/display
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MMBA 2000 Annual Meeting

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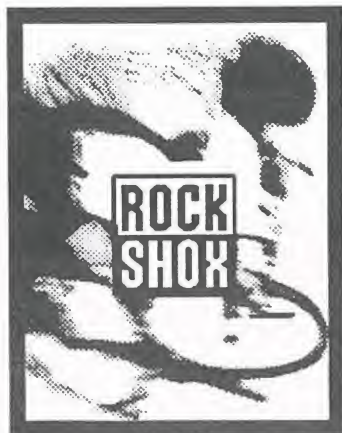


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Bike Swap!
Prizes!

**Springfield Oaks Activities Center, 12451 Andersonville Road,
Davisburg, Michigan 1:00 P.M. on Sunday, February 6, 2000.**



On behalf of the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA), you're invited to our MMBA 2000 Annual Meeting sponsored by RockShox®, which will be held at the Springfield Oaks Activities Center, 12451 Andersonville Road, Davisburg, Michigan 1:00 P.M. on Sunday, February 6, 2000. You don't have to be an MMBA member to attend, though you have to wear a blaze orange helmet covered with red spots if you go to the Blizzard Blaster Ride as a non-MMBA rider...just kidding. Mark the date on your calendar! It's biking fun no matter what the weather!

MMBA/RockShox Agenda

↪ 9:00 am

Blizzard Blaster Ride-Pontiac Lk.

Free informal club get together-we'll do a gravel road ride if weather/circumstances dictate

↪ 10:00 am

Bike Swap

Springfield Oaks

Food Service opens

↪ 11:00 am

Annual Meeting

Event-Chapter Booths open, land managers - trail information, industry/dealer demo's/ new member sign up/raffles begin/swap continues/Roller Races begin. Fun, fun!

↪ 1:00

Festina

MMBA Championship Points Series Awards

Wilderness Trail Bikes

Volunteer Awards

General Membership Meeting/Business - MMBA information

↪ 4:00pm

Cool Booth Awards/Raffle For Prizes

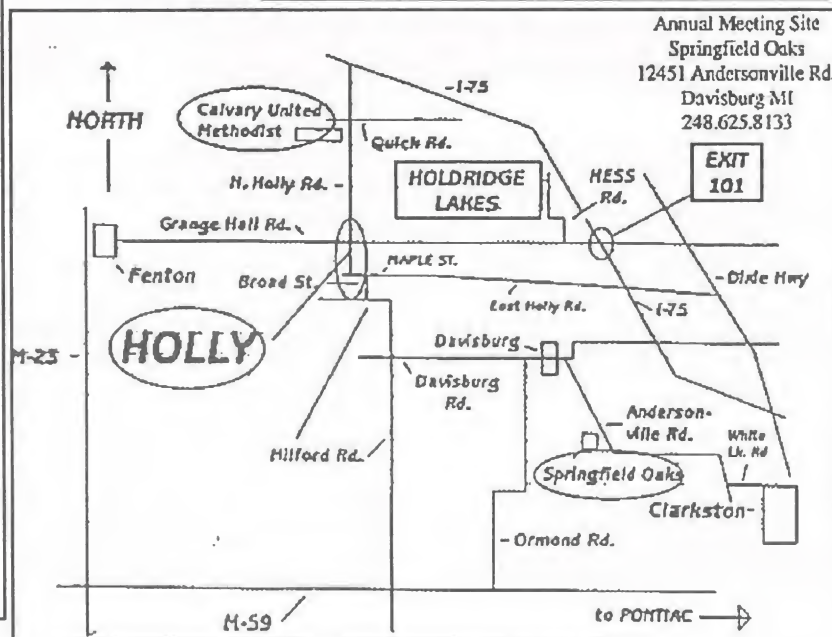
Adjournment

Biggest MMBA Bike Swap In 2000

The Annual Blizzard Blaster Fun Ride even if it's not 40 below windchill...it'll blow you away!

Afterwards, come visit reps from RockShox® and grab the latest mag. from our friends at

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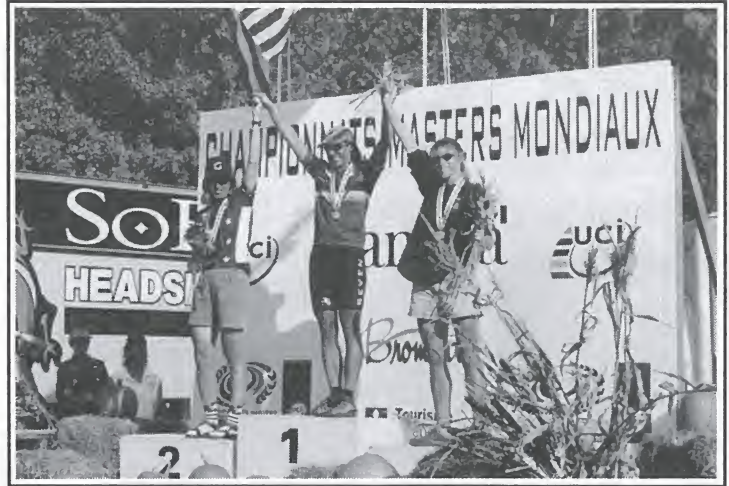


Masters World Championships

by Lisa Lazaroff

During the week prior to Labor Day, I attended the MTB Masters World Championships with Shelly Wilson* in Bromont, Quebec, Canada. Just to ease any confusion, it wasn't me who was competing, it was Shelly.

We arrived on Tuesday so Shelly could acclimate herself to the environment and ride the course... A LOT! The weather had made the course dusty, loose



Pictures top and bottom of Shelly Wilson at the Worlds. She passed the second place competitor in view of the finish line and beat her by 3 seconds. Shelly was off the first place finish by only 50 seconds.



on the climbs & descents and deep in places. It was a 5 mile loop that did a number of short, steep climbs with not much recovery. There was a really technical rock section which had some options in the trail. All in all, the course proved to be just up Shell's alley, technical areas & technical descents, just what appeals to a girl with no fear.

Race day came and the day was hot at 8 a.m. (80 degrees).

There were 15 women registered in Shelly's age division. I left her at the start line and went to the feed zone where she would be passing by twice. My job was to keep her fed & hydrated. The first time she came by she was in third place, a minute behind first and had second in her sight. The second lap found her in about the same position at the feed zone, but it appeared she might be closing in on the first and second

place women.

After she passed through, I went to the technical rock section in time to see her attack it with such aggression that I knew she was on a mission. She knew she could take second and was only 5 seconds behind her with 1/4 mile to go. She passed the second place girl in view of the finish line and beat her by 3 seconds. The first place woman was from Vermont and won by a mere 50 seconds (the same woman beat Shelly by 10 minutes in June)!!

*ed. note: Shelly Wilson also took first place for All Expert Women in the MMBA CPS series. Result of the MMBA CPS begin on page 5 of this publication. Any questions or concerns about the 1999 CPS need to be directed to the MMBA CPS Director, Joseph Yannie. He can be reached by accessing the MMBA web page at: www.mmba.org. You may also contact him by writing Joseph Yannie, CPS Director 4217 Highland Rd. #268, Highland MI 48328 or call: 616-785-0120.

The Top Ten List

The top 10 Michigan State Parks visited from October 1, 1998, to September 30, 1999, include:

1. Warren Dunes State Park, Sawyer: 1.83 million
2. Holland State Park, Holland: 1.78 million
3. Grand Haven State Park, Grand Haven: 1.62 million
4. Sterling State Park, Monroe: 1.21 million
5. Silver Lake State Park, Mears: 1.10 million
6. Island Lake Recreation Area, Brighton: 1.07 million
7. Pinckney Recreation Area, Pinckney: 896,827
8. Yankee Springs Recreation Area, Middleville: 875,638
9. Ludington State Park, Ludington: 772,045
10. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area, Waterford: 655,345



The Electronic Trail

E-mail to the MMBA

Greetings,

As most of you know, this year's MMBA point series races were over today at Cannonsburg. This was my first season to race in Michigan and I was really enjoying it. Big thank you to each race promoter and sponsor. Especially, great thanks to the point series director, Joe Yannie. You have seen him at the MMBA tent if you have been racing. He has been taking care of total points by himself. Incredible job. I really appreciate it. Finally, thank you very much to all who have been cheering racers.

I just wanted to appreciate these.

Kentaro

Hi MMBA

At the October Pontiac Lake meeting at the sportsman's club in Oakland County, I overheard another rider saying something like "What's the big deal? There's plenty of land there...why not just cut new bike trails? It's not that hard."

Certainly as you stand on a high spot and look out over the park it does seem like there's a lot of land, especially when, from a pure biking standpoint, trails that loop back on themselves a lot can be entertaining while offering a lot of mileage per acre. The start of the Novi Tree Farm trail is a very extreme example of this type of layout.

Obviously, that type of land use would encroach on other users that are not "trail-centric", such as hunters, and it would detract from the wilderness feeling to see other bikes on nearby parts of the trail as you ride. And of course there are always administrative and political obstacles to cutting new trails.

It may be, though, that many riders share that rider's opinion. **Is there a general MMBA position on that type of land use? I think we could all benefit from an educated overview of the issue.**

Jon Hague

Thank you for your question, Jon.

To the benefit of all those who enjoy the trails which Michigan's Parks and Recreation Areas have to offer, Jon's question(s) might be best understood in the context of multi-use, which refers to sharing the resources available at our parks and recreation areas with everyone.

Sharing the resources at our parks and recreation areas is very complex. Everything that goes on in our State Parks and Recreation Areas has to reflect many considerations such as land size, hiking, biking, equestrian use, hunting, walkers, handicap access, forest needs and health, endangered,

protected or sensitive plants and animals, federal dollars tied to use and/or how the land was purchased, other recreational uses in the area (county, city, township, etc.), water sheds, staffing at the area, resources for maintenance, camping activities, beach access, historical/environmental/social impact(s), historical use perspectives and many other factors. Trails for recreation are just one of the many options that are a part of our parks and recreation areas.

In short, cutting new trail is a simple process, but a very major undertaking when all these factors are considered. This is one of the reasons why the DNR Parks and Recreation Division has convened the Stakeholders Process which began this past November. One of the major goals will be to further develop and refine the process for meeting the needs of the many users of our State Parks and Recreation Areas in a more timely manner. Jason Jones, your MMBA President, is leading the effort to forge a document to address the needs of the parks: **Mountain Biking in MDNR Parks and Recreation Areas: A Trail Program Needs Analysis. This will be one of the most important and thorough assessments of the needs and issues written to date in the state of Michigan.**

As for Pontiac Lake Recreation Area, the amount of trail that will be gained or lost is secondary to developing a trail/management system that will meet the needs of all those who use the facility while maintaining the integrity of the resource. The trails that are presently in the park and what is proposed will not be based on miles alone but on veracity of and towards the resource and what the land can handle over the long term.

The MMBA supports a broad non-motorized multi-use philosophy and resource sensitive management approach to our lands, while encouraging the development of trail resource opportunities whenever and wherever appropriate. This perspective will not allow things to happen overnight in our Parks and Recreation Areas, but rather the perspective will support the long-term success of Park and Recreation Area opportunities which include the development and maintenance of mountain biking trail access throughout the Parks and Recreation Area System.

Your link to this process is through

(Continued next pg.)

(e-mail continued from last page...)

your local chapter of the MMBA. You can keep up to speed on what is happening in your area by being involved in your local chapter, and the process will move along much faster, too. Go to your local chapter meetings several times a year, give 10 hours of trail care a year and it will take less time for the DNR, the MMBA and all trail/park recreation area users to get their work done. **Thank you for your support of the MMBA, every member is one more voice to help the DNR understand what we need from our Park, Recreation and Forest resources.**

Dwain Abramowski
Executive Director MMBA

Hi!

My name is Mark Tye. Although I'm not a frequent mountain biker, some friends talked me into coming to Dirtstock '99 at Ft. Custer. I had a good time,



rode some great trails, and had fun playing a silly game I'd never heard of before: mountain bike soccer. I forgot about it pretty quickly afterwards, though.

So imagine my surprise a few months later when one of those same friends showed me her hot-off-the-presses copy of the "Bent Rim Bugle", adorned with a one-in-a-million shot of yours truly looking extremely silly trying to kick at an oversized soccer ball.

When I borrowed the magazine and showed it around to friends and



family, most of them were very confused and thought I was *trying* to ride with the ball "balanced" on my foot like that. (The caption didn't help) ...ed. however all those who know Granny's Garden would love to see someone try!

I guess you had to be there.

Anyway, if you've been wondering all this time who that guy was that played the lead in the Ft. Custer performance of "Swan Lake" - co-starring a Gary Fisher Aquila and a big red ball-now you know.

Mark mediaone.net

E - Notes....

Recently a search was done by an MMBA member on the web using the "google" search engine (www.google.com). He found of the 59,600 hits for "Mountain Biking", the MMBA website was number 15th on their hit list. Looks like our web site is a well recognized web site!! Way to Go MMBA!!

<< mountain biking.url>>

A quote was recently dropped in the MMBA mail box, it went like this: "our job is caring for the trails....our income is everyone's support..."

Looking for the latest on access and the bike industry? Go to Bicycle Retailer and Industry: www.bicycleretailer.com
Username: retailer
Password: BIKENEWS (in all caps)

Recently they have had several articles on the MMBA including a press release on our new **Big Ring Ale.**

The average American finds 22 pieces of mail in the mailbox every week. Personal mail (household to household) has decreased from 1.6 to 1.2 pieces of mail each week. Nonprofit advertising mail - (like the MMBA) receives the highest response rate.

(continued from pg. 4)



Chapter, the MMBA State Board and myself appreciate your strong support. Don't relax too much this winter, as plans for the parking lot expansion at Holdridge Lakes are being finalized and I hope we'll begin in February. Plans for the pavilion are also underway. The order for the Marker Signs, for all loops at Holdridge has been placed and should be available in the spring. **If any Chapter Members would like to be added to the Chapter's E-Mail List...please send your E-Mail Address to rjerrell@tir.com**

Lastly, PLEASE ATTEND THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING. You're the MMBA. Other info will be in the Chapter Newletters...Keep your membership current and STAY TUNED. Thanks!

The Holly/Flint Volunteer of the Year is: BOB CLIMIE.

The Chapter tallied 1,034 trail hours.

117 hrs.- Bob Climie
95 hrs. - Rick Jerrell
50 hrs. -Joel Anderson / Chuck Buckalew
40 hrs. - Kirk Costello/ Jeff Feldmeyer /Dave Stewart
30 hrs. Paula Wollin/Carl Wollin/ Ryan Jerrell/Terri Berta/ Jenni Berta/Lauren Berta
Ron Stack/Rebecca Stack
25 hrs. - MaryAnn Martin/ Brad Eshbaugh/Paul Gruber
20 hrs. - Randy Estes/Mark Weingartz/Ken Foss/Tom Andras
16 hrs. - Ryan Isabell/ Bart Horton
15 hrs. - Karl Filipowsky/ Amy Costello/Mark Shipman
10 hrs. - Jim Davis/Brian Moe/ Jane Hale/Charlene Estes/Kathy Feldmeyer/Nancy McHugh/ Kristine Stewart/Randy Dolata Stuart Svobado/Marshall Colley/ Kris Weingartz/Marilyn Miller Joe Weiss - Thank you all!

(Continued next pg.)

Pontiac Lake Chapter
Total hours for
Pontiac Lake for 1999 - 1,428

The trail work hours are well documented from sign in sheets. Technical difficulties kept us from listing the number for each Pontiac Lake Volunteer, but here is a list of the Volunteers who helped keep Pontiac Lake open: Alderson, Randy/Angom, Shane/Archer, Tom/Betts, Lisa/Boettcher, Tom/Brzvchanski, Joe/Cameron, Don/Collins, Karey/Collins, Tim/Delavem, Jody/Drawe, Patt/Faber, Jerry/Farnsworth, Terry/Flack, Mike/Fleming, Art/Flory, Ken/Frisbie, Brian/Frisbie, Eric/Frisbie, Ray/Grayson, John/Hausbeck, Shari/Hirischuk, Mike/Horvatic, Robert/Johnson, Carol/Kais, John/Kanipe, Jennifer/Kinley, Steve/Kistner, Mark/Landers, Mark/Lebeuf, Tom/Linden, Robert/Linton, Craig/Luks, Kim/Maks, Tom/Meyers, Scott/Neigebauer, Dianne/Nilo, Frank/Ostrowski, Arthur/Parker, Jeff/Pederson, Leslie/Phillips, Brent/Poirier, Dave/Rosinski, Mike/Scheider, Paul/Schoonover, Rick/Scurr, Robin/Stewart, Calvin/Voorheis, Steve/Weller, Chris

Pontiac Lake's new Chapter President is Carol Johnston. Welcome Carol. You can contact her for the latest Chapter info at: 248-681-2822.

Western Chapter

The Western Chapter of the MMBA would like to take this opportunity to express our sympathy to the family, friends, customers and business associates of Bob Toft, owner of the Speed Merchants, in Rockford, MI who passed away last fall. Everyone, as well as the MMBA, lost a valuable asset of the bicycling community, as well as a good friend to many. The Speed Merchants remains open under the management of Bob's co-owner and friend, Kim Wood. We all hope that in this time of

transition all those involved will find peace and a hopeful future.

Western Chapter
Total hours for the
Western Chapter in 1999
were 1,219

Dwain Abramowski-10/Aileen Bonnell-12/John Boonstra-19/Dan Clark-17/Bradley Cole-20/Cameran Cammon-5/David DeAvila-2/Rob Gerwig-4/Robert W. Gerwig-2/John Haffenden-26/Dave Heyboer-18/Kip Horton-10/Bruce Johnston-60/Marty Jones-69/Janet Jones-27/Bruce Johnston-50/James Karel-4/Chris Kring-54/Jack Kunnen-10/Dave Lenting-10/Alana Magniant-10/Gabrielle Magniant-10/Jane Magniant-10/Michael Miller-15/Jon Mullen-18/Travis Mullen-18/Jim Pietucha-10/Cathy Plite-10/Rick Plite-10/Steve Pruett-15/Ed Schmick-5/Aaron Smith-

“But, even though the taxpayers of the area, the Coalition, and the EPA have asked for alternatives to the destructive bridge bypass approach, the Road Commission has been slow to respond.”

2/Tony Stachowiak-12/Matt Stochowiak-12/Brad Stochowiak-10/PT Stevens-10/Doug Warren-2/Eileen Zelent-10

Northern Chapter
by Terry Ritter

For those of you familiar with Traverse City, there are many things to love: Clean air, beautiful landscape, clear lakes and rivers, traffic buzzing overhead. No, that isn't a misprint. The Grand Traverse County Road Commission is proposing just that. A 300 million dollar, 33-mile highway bypass south of Traverse City that would span the Boardman River Valley.

Actually, the plan was proposed back in the early nineties. Many residents wondered if this was the direction in which they wanted their town to grow. A local vote killed the funding. Later the plan was proposed again and met with opposition from the governmental level. Now, both

government and grass roots citizens groups are asking some hard questions...questions the Road Commission can't seem to answer.

Why is the plan so flawed? Back in the seventies, a similar bypass was created on South Airport Road. It soon became a congested, commercial nightmare. Smart Roads: Grand Traverse Region, put out by the Michigan Land Use Institute (www.mlui.org) for the Traverse City group Coalition for Sensible Growth, tells the whole story. Putting in new roads doesn't just affect traffic patterns, it changes communities. New roads spur development. Places people want or need to drive to become farther away. Urban sprawl has begun. History has shown this bridge bypass will progress the same way.

There is a trade off for development: Roads for forest. Roads for wetlands. Roads for mountain bike trails. Yet, most conventional planning models push for more and wider roads. Does this make any sense? Does a farmer buy more land before trying to get the most from the acreage he or she has? The Coalition for Sensible Growth believes we should maximize the existing pathways before destroying wetlands in the Boardman Valley, farmland in the outskirts of Traverse, and putting future roads through the beloved VASA area. Improve existing roads, target public transit programs, adopt criteria for future community and road planning, are things to be done.

But, even though the taxpayers of the area, the Coalition, and the EPA have asked for alternatives to the destructive bridge bypass approach, the Road Commission has been slow to respond. And, it is ego and corruption fueling the stubbornness. Twenty years ago this plan was thought up. And, some of the members or the Commission responsible for the push to see the bridge through, have much invested in this project, owning land along the corridor that the by-pass would traverse. Add that to the road block of the "environmentalists," as the Commission has called groups opposed to their plan, and you get the sense they won't be told how to do their business.

(Chapter Chatter Continued on pg. 18)

MMBA Membership Director Needed

After many years of service, Robin Scurr, the MMBA's current Membership Director, would like to step down. Robin has served the membership needs of the MMBA with the highest level of accuracy and proficiency. He has attended most all board meetings and has helped make MMBA Annual meeting a success. His high attention to detail at the state level has made the MMBA a better organization each year. **The MMBA would like to extend the most sincerest thanks to Robin for his steadfast and dependable service. You will be missed.**

Robin has told the MMBA board that he will assist in educating the new MMBA Membership Director in fulfilling the responsibilities of the MMBA's membership needs and using the MMBA's data base program.

Membership Director Responsibilities: Keep, maintain and update new MMBA membership/produce mailing labels for BRB, Chapters, Board Needs, mailings, etc./attend quarterly board meetings/provide board with membership reports, etc. **For further information and nominations contact the MMBA at: gommmba@aol.com/616-785-0120 or contact Robin, our current director at: RScurr@aol.com**

(Chapter Chatter cont. from pg.17)

The Road Commission must understand, as others at the local and state level have, that the bridge bypass is too ineffective and too destructive to be the answer.

Northeast Chapter

By: Randy Wallace & Todd Dewell

The Northeast Chapter would like to recognize the hard work of two of our members. Our very own trail coordinator and resident ride leaders, Randy Wallace and Nick Long. On October 16th, 1999 both helped lead a day long mountain biking informational session at the Pine Haven Recreation Area for several Boy Scout troops as part of the Shoreline District Camporee-In-Motion. The 22 Scouts in attendance learned about the basics of good trail design, and trail maintenance. All in attendance had an

opportunity to take part in a group ride and prize give away. The following is a letter of appreciation from Bill Sansburn, District Commissioner for the Shoreline District.

Dear Randy,

On behalf of the Activities Committee for Shoreline District, I want to again thank you for attending our fall Camporee. I heard nothing but great reports about the mountain bike trail ride. I really think that you provided an experience for the Scouts that many of them would never have had an opportunity to try. Maybe you also created a few more mountain bikers!

"When eating a fruit, think of the person who planted the tree." Vietnamese saying

Thank You!

CABDA for booth space at both the CABDA Dealer Show and at February's Consumers show. Many Michigan Bike Dealers are CABDA members, visit one today. For a list of CABDA Michigan Bike Dealers call: **708-922-2104**

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*Must be an MMBA Member to sell/display your "Bike Swap" items.

MMBA-The Short List

Here a few things we've been up to. For more check out our website: www.mmba.org

- Landmark sponsorship deals for a state advocacy organization -- Subaru, Dagger Paddlesports, Festina (non-industry!), RockShox, etc.
- Production of a micro-brew sold to support our advocacy efforts.
- Production of a custom brewed coffee sold to support our advocacy efforts.
- One of the oldest state race series with consistent attendance in the 300 to 600 range..
- A new Gravity Bros. Cactus Cup Race in MI, Halloween Weekend 2000.
- Etc.

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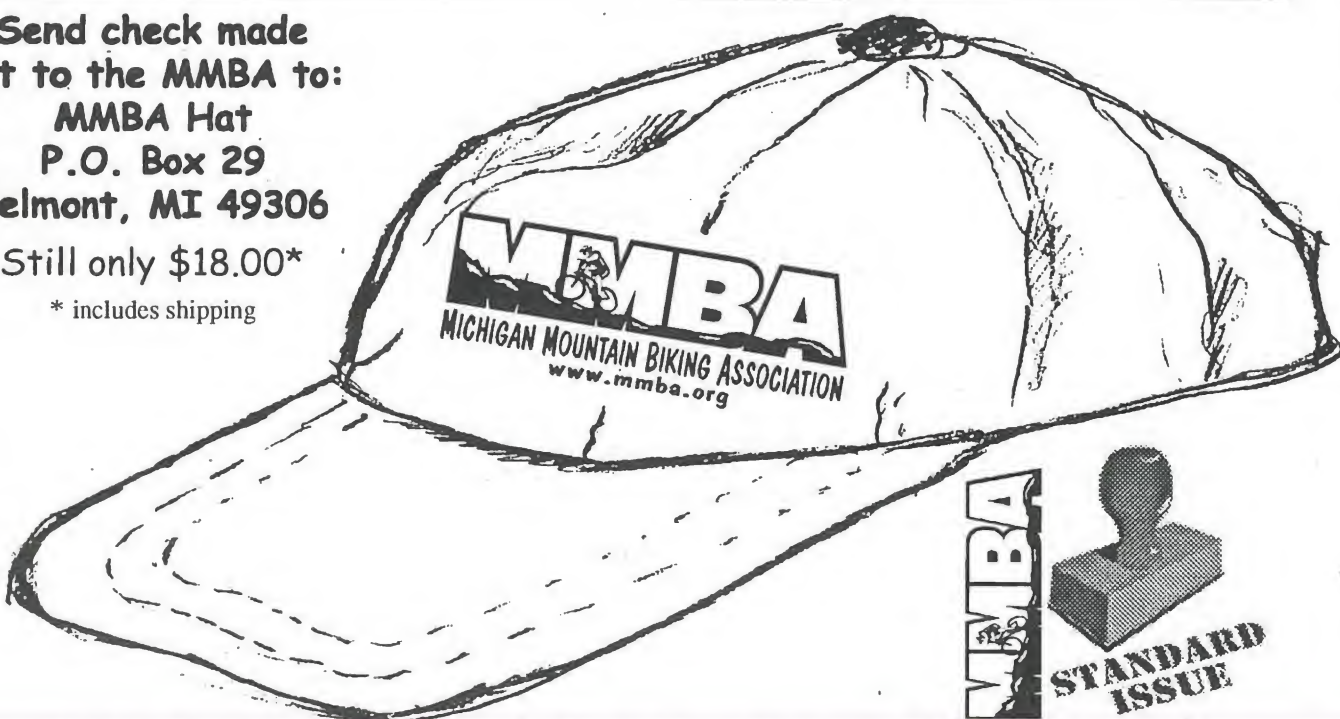
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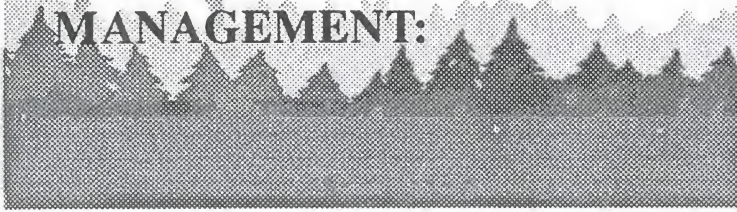
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LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR LAND MANAGEMENT:



Dividing Public Land User Groups

by Jason Aric Jones

A person driving a car recklessly on a public park access road veers onto a sidewalk hitting and killing five people. A hunter shoots at a blur of motion in the forest which he believes to be a deer, killing a man walking his dog. A snowmobiler, going too fast on a trail hits a tree, killing her passenger.

In order to avoid such incidents, should driving, hunting, and snowmobiling be banned?

If you are a land manager using Lowest Common Denominator (LCD) land management practice, you would answer a resounding, "Yes". Because, as a practitioner of LCD management, it would be your goal not to MITIGATE possible risky behavior within a user group which participates in an activity on public lands, but, rather to ELIMINATE that user group's activity altogether.

Sound implausible? Surely, no land managers would react in such a manner. After all, incidents such as those noted above happen every year, with their underlying user activities still being permitted on many public lands. There is no such thing as LCD land management, right? Wrong! Allow me to present another example.

A mountain biker that doesn't want her heart rate to drop too low decides to ignore a stop sign at a trail intersection. As she runs the stop sign, she encounters an equestrian trail rider. She hits the horse, which proceeds to throw its rider and trample both users. As we know from this article's opening examples, the typical reaction of a LCD-style land manager would be to ban mountain biking on this trail system because this incident clearly shows it poses a safety risk and a danger to others.

But, "Say What?" As with the opening three examples, isn't this

incident really caused by user ignorance and unlawfulness? **Is it mountain biking on this trail that is risky, or is inappropriate behavior by an individual that is risky?**

Unfortunately, I have heard land managers that would never suggest the elimination of driving, hunting, or snowmobiling on public lands suggest that mountain biking really doesn't have a place because of the "risks" involved. However, as illustrated in the example above, most of the risks these land managers seem to be concerned with stem from illegal or irresponsible behavior on the part of an individual user, not risk-sets that are inherent in the activity of mountain biking.

A double standard? Well, sure it is. Virtually every recreational activity that is done in a public setting has a set of risks caused by a subset of neanderthals, societal dregs, and general losers unwilling to obey safety laws, regulations, or the universal rules of common sense. In the hunting world, there are "slob" hunters who disobey the laws and regulations of hunting safely. For snowmobilers, there are those idiots who choose to drink and sled. On in-line skate paths, you have those clowns who choose to pull-off risky moves at speed while in the presence of a pathway crowded by mothers with strollers. The mountain biking world? Yes, it has its idiots, too. Riders who disobey safety signage, intentionally spook animals/people, or carry an excessive amount of speed in inappropriate circumstances. These folks are the "lowest common denominators"

of their given user groups. Their stunts, in land manager terms, usually result in "incidents".

The double standard plays out when a land manager decides to ban or curtail the activity of one user group due to LCD user incidents coming from that group. This is especially offensive when 1.) the user group whose activity is banned or curtailed does not seem to have any more (and may have even less) LCD incidents than other user groups whose activities are permitted; and, when 2.) land managers have not taken any substantial education or enforcement initiatives to curb LCD incidents within the user group whose activity is banned or curtailed, while taking such initiatives with other user groups whose activities are continued to be permitted.

So, why would land managers take a management position representing such a double standard? Obviously, there can be a myriad of reasons, but a few prominent ones jump to mind.

First, a land manager may believe it to be easier to just prohibit an activity rather than permit it and have to spend resources on education and enforcement. This is LCD-style management precipitated by another management style that, believe it or not, is quite prevalent within

"...For snowmobilers, there are those idiots who choose to drink and sled. On in-line skate paths, you have those clowns who choose to pull-off risky moves at speed while in the presence of a pathway crowded by mothers with strollers..."

government agencies Path-of-Least-Resistance-Style management. Of course, just prohibiting an activity on public land is not necessarily conducive to effective Path-of-Least-Resistance-Style management. This is where advocacy groups and political lobby groups become a factor. **Which activities get banned and which are permitted is often a function of what user group has the best organization and representative numbers.** For instance, a decision by an MDNR land manager to

(Continued next pg.)

"ban" hunting on a material parcel of public land would not be effective Path-of-Least Resistance-style management, as the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) might potentially provide significant resistance in the pursuit of this path. However, if cross-country skiers were perceived to be creating "incidents" with snowshoers, an MDNR land manager might very well be able to exercise Path-of-Least Resistance-style management by banning both cross-country skiers and snowshoers. Why? The lack of a united and uniform voice for their activity within the state.

Such an LCD management double standard can also stem from an unwillingness or inability of a land manager to understand a user group activity. This results in a land manager placing a higher value on one user group's activity vs. another's activity. As such, the land manager may realize LCD type risks are inherent in both activities, but the manager has a perception that one activity has more of a "return" than the other. Thus, the manager bans or curtails the activity perceived to have the lower return. For instance, Land Manager Larry grew up fishing. Recently, anglers have been casting close to the canoe launch in the river, occasionally snagging the ears and eyes of unsuspecting canoeists with their fly hooks. Land Manager Larry is certainly not going to put prohibitions on the tradition he grew up with, besides, he almost drowned in a canoe once in Canada when he was nine. Larry determines that those canoeists have been just too aggressive in launching their boats in this area, so he shuts down the launch.

LCD management represents a dangerously oversimplified approach to solving public land use problems. Such management can be subjective, arbitrary and capricious in its rationale, and often preys upon legitimate public lands users who end up being the "monkey-in-the-middle" of government land manager bureaucracies.

What you can do to make sure your public lands activity doesn't fall victim to LCD management:

- 1.) Join an organized user group representing your public land activity.
- 2.) Demand education and

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enforcement initiatives by land managers with regard to your activity. Such initiatives can be organized, partially or fully-funded, and run by private user groups under the auspices and control of partner user groups (i.e. MUCC hunter safety classes).

3.) Berate a bozo in your user group. Let 'em know that when they act as the least common denominator of a user group, they are endangering the future of that group's public lands activity.

"Only very lowly and late have men come to realize that unless freedom is universal it is only an extended privilege."
Christopher Hill

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Classified ads available to all MMBA members free of charge- the next Bent Rim Bugle (BRB) will go out in March-Fax ad to 616-785-1940/e-mail gommba@aol.com.

A Tale of Two Mountain Bikers

by Will U. Listen

It was the best of times, and the worst of times for mountain bikers in Xanadu. For ten years a small minority group of Xanadu mountain bikers had worked with Xanadu Department of Natural Resources officials to maintain and build trails open to mountain biking. The fruits of their labor were evident in both the quantity and quality of trails they had either created or opened around Xanadu. Riders came from far and wide to ride these trails, which were declared some of the best in the nation. Riders were happy.

However, as more and more riders came, the minority group that worked to build and maintain these trail systems had to work harder and longer to keep the trail system alive and well. The riders proclaimed that there should be races at these trails, and the minority group answered with races. The riders asked these trails to be maintained, and the minority group made it happen. At certain times, outsiders threatened that trails may be closed and riders said, "This isn't right, we should be able to ride." They asked the minority group to represent their interests to

the land managers, and the minority group complied.

But, the minority group grew weary. Too much work, for too little reward. After all, some members of the minority group now worked so hard to keep trails open, that they were left with little time to use and enjoy the very trails they worked so hard to protect. So, they asked the riders, "Come help us work for the trails. **Do you not want to help keep the trails open so that you may ride on them?**" The riders responded, "Of course we do. We appreciate your efforts. You're the best! We'd love to join in -- what can we do?" So the minority group let the riders know what they could do, and there was hope, and there were trails.

But the riders did not come. They rode the trails, with increasing frequency. They bought more bikes and bike parts. They rode alone against their heart rates. They rode together in groups. They rode to have fun. But the riders

did not come to help the minority group. Many promises were made, but there was always a good reason for not helping.

I meant to send the check. I was going to do that. Something suddenly came up. Work, school, family, jet skis, church time, bar time, needle-

point, ballroom dancing – the riders wanted to help the minority group, but something always got in the way.

The riders were apologetic to the minority group. "I wish I had the time that you minority folks have. You don't have the all the things that I have to deal with. You're so lucky," they said to the minority.

Some time passed, and the minority group of mountain bikers slowly faded away. There were rumors, allegations, and lots of lore but none of the riders really knew where any of them went. As for the trails, they slowly disappeared as well. Some became golf cart paths, some became neighborhood sidewalks, and still others became roadways; shuttling folks who used to be riders on their morning commute to work.

All was not lost though. Several motivated riders did end up working to keep Xanadu's trail systems around for future generations. Several published high-art coffee table books which captured their memory of the trails on beautiful high resolution acid-free paper. Additionally, many of the systems were recreated almost to a "t" in the CompuCo Virtual Nature Trail CD-ROM Software Package. These riders had finally found the time to preserve the trails.

President's Note: Wow, interesting story about those trails in Xanadu, eh? Remember next time you don't have time, its like the wise man once said, **"We all have 24 hours in a day, how we choose to use them is up to us."**



An official wake-up call article

The MMBA

Welcomes New Sponsor

The Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) is happy to welcome Dagger©, Inc. - an internationally known manufacturer of kayaks, canoes, and other paddlesports equipment – as an official sponsor of the MMBA for 2000.

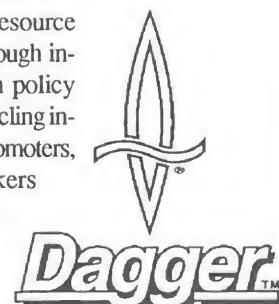
"People may wonder what in the world a paddlesports company is doing sponsoring a mountain bike advocacy organization, but the reality is that it makes a lot of sense for us (MMBA) and Dagger©. **Mountain bikers and paddlers are both, first-and-foremost, outdoor enthusiasts.** Kayaks,

canoes, and mountain bikes are all just vehicles which we use to explore and commune with nature. Hopefully, we can get some mountain bikers paddling, and paddlers mountain biking. "As a corporation, Dagger© also has a rich tradition of environmental advocacy, so this sponsorship really shouldn't come as a surprise", said Jason Aric Jones, MMBA President.

As part of the sponsorship arrangement, the MMBA will be showcasing Dagger© and its quality line of paddlesports products at its events and in its publications throughout 2000.

The MMBA is a nine chapter 501(c)(3)

corporation with nearly 2,000 members. The organization's mission is to promote responsible mountain biking in Michigan; working toward the goals of common land access and natural resource protection through interaction with policy makers, the cycling industry, race promoters, mountain bikers and other trail users.





MMBA members , Sarah Belzer and James and Karen Partridge were the lucky MMBA contingent to help with the ceremonial boxing of the first few cases of Big Ring Ale.

Big Ring Ale

The Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) celebrates the long awaited arrival of Big Ring Ale. The first 150 cases were bottled and capped today and are ready for consumption just in time for the holidays. "This is just another one of the many MMBA projects and programs that we've implemented," says Dwain Abramowski, Executive Director of the MMBA, "to help fund the charitable programs and ongoing trail care and development activities of the MMBA. The success of the MMBA hinges on resource development to support our Volunteers and pay for the expenses of running a large non-profit corporation such as the MMBA. The opportunity to license our name to a unique product, like Big Ring Ale, has opened another much needed source of funding in the absence of any comprehensive/long term support from the cycling industry or national bicycling organizations."

Big Ring Ale is a smooth dark ale produced by the Michigan Brewing Company of Webberville, Michigan, for the MMBA. "It's a full-bodied, dark brew ale with hints of nutty and bready flavors rounded with caramel sweetness," explains Bobby Mason owner of the Michigan Brewing Company. "Michigan Brewing Company is a combination of American entrepreneur spirit and expertise," says Mason, "no-restaurant, no-tv, no game room, just great beer and friendly service."

"We hope if you enjoy a good tasting hand-crafted ale, you'll give Big Ring Ale a try. It is the kind of beer that one drinks for the taste, not quantity." Abramowski explained, "It comes uniquely packaged as a 4-pack, in the first of it's kind, recyclable containers. You won't believe the convenience of this new type of packaging of great tasting beer."

Big Ring Ale is just another in a line of unique products that the MMBA has developed to help meet its funding resource needs, **other products include MMBA JAVA, a smooth dark rich custom roasted coffee, custom designed MMBA T-Shirts, embroidered hats and the unique MMBA Handbook, which contains all the latest trail and event activities taking place in 2000.** Also in 2000, the MMBA will be introducing MMBA coffee mugs and beer glasses. Big Ring Ale can be ordered locally through your neighborhood retailer such as Merchant-a-Vino or Wholefoods in the Detroit/Ann Arbor area or you can pick-up Big Ring Ale directly at the Michigan Brewing Company in Webberville (517) 521-3600. **Special thanks to James Partridge for his council in setting up the formal relationship between the MMBA and Michigan Brewing Company and help with the registration of our logo.**

Oh, and it goes without saying if you're any kind of decent human being, don't drink and drive. Please drink in moderation.

Thank You!

Denny's Cycle Sports in East Lansing. Jon Vandecar, owner, has worked with Specialized to produce a water bottle (large wide mouth) printed with the MMBA logo and website address. One dollar from the sale of each bottle goes to the MMBA to care for the trails. **Thanks Jon!** If your bike shop has a special promotion that benefits the forests and trails in Michigan let us know and we'll celebrate it!

MMBA

Handbook 2000

With the help of a grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation (M-DOT), this year's Official MMBA Handbook 2000 could be better than ever. Lisa Lazaroff, the Mid-State Chapter President, has taken over the huge task of collecting, coordinating and compiling information from around the state for this year's handbook. You will see new maps, updated and expanded, new industry sponsors, order forms, discounts coupons and other timely information for the new millennium.

MMBA members, look for your hand book to arrive sometime in February or the first of March. Also, with the grant money from the M-DOT we'll be able to achieve more extensive distribution throughout the year.

Thank you Michigan DOT and extra thanks you's to Lisa Lazaroff for making it all possible!

Thank You!

Paula Wollin, who has taken over Mt.Kids Coordinator at the State Level

Thank You!

Joe Weiss for creating the new cool 2000 MMBA Logo.

Thank you to all those who participated in the TTC program this year, see page 26 for all the details.



I·M·B·A

A National Perspective

Leaders of the U.S. mountain bike advocacy community will gather February 11-13 near Austin, Texas, for the 2000 IMBA State Representative Leadership Summit. The three-day event, which will be held at Flat Creek Ranch outside Austin, is designed to strengthen IMBA's network of state representatives and improve IMBA's work on behalf of mountain bikers.

The 2000 State Representative Leadership Summit will feature sessions on:

- ... effective advocacy
- ... finding common ground with other trail users and with land managers
- ... how to recruit volunteers and nurture them
- ... how to develop and sustain mountain bike clubs
- ... building relationships with land managers
- ... diffusing typical anti-bike arguments
- ... mobilizing IMBA's network
- ... how to raise money for advocacy

I am (Dwain) your IMBA Representative and I will be attending the Summit on your behalf. I will forward information to you in the next issue of the BRB and in my regular "PaperTrail" column on the web (www.mmba.org).

IMBA Advocacy Director, Jen Lamb says, "We're really excited about the Austin Summit because it provides a rare opportunity for all of IMBA's state leaders to come together to share success stories, generate new ideas, and help each other solve local access problems."

IMBA's structure incorporates a professional staff, a volunteer board of directors and designated representatives from each U.S. state and many other countries. IMBA's backbone remains its

individual membership of 16,000 and its network of more than 350 off-road cycling clubs.

IMBA is a non-profit organization that promotes responsible riding, volunteer trailwork participation, and cooperation among all trail user groups and land management agencies. While the Leadership Summit is an invitation-only event, the outcomes of the gathering will be shared with the cycling press and IMBA's entire membership. For more information contact Dan Vardamis (dan@imba.com) at IMBA.



Opportunity or threat?

The following is IMBA's letter commenting on the Forest Service's Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in response to President Clinton's Roadless Initiative. If you'd like more information about IMBA's perspective on the Roadless Initiative, please see the December issue of IMBA Trail News (p.1) or visit our website at www.imba.com.
Dec. 20, 1999

USDA Forest Service-CAET
Attention Roadless Areas NOI
P O Box 221090
Salt Lake City, UT 84122

Dear Forest Service,

The International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) supports the President's Initiative to preserve America's roadless areas. We believe that no roads should be built into Roadless Areas within America's national forests. Mountain bicyclists generally prefer to ride on trails in areas where there are few (or no) roads, as long as reasonable road access to trailheads is available.

IMBA is an international education and advocacy organization with 325 member clubs, more than 80 corporate partners, and a network of more than 50,000 individual mountain bikers. IMBA's mission is to promote mountain bicycling opportunities that are environ-

mentally sound and socially responsible.
Summary

The following is a summary of IMBA's comments on the President's Initiative. More detailed analysis follows.

1. Roadless areas are important to mountain bicyclists because they are undisturbed and natural.

2. Roadless areas are ideal for bicycling because they contain single-track trails that provide the types of experiences mountain bicyclists prefer.

3. Roads and road use make forests less natural and more noisy, which can detract from the quality of the mountain biking experience.

4. IMBA sees the Roadless Initiative as an opportunity to create and implement a new, effective method of protecting land, while allowing mountain biking.

5. IMBA will oppose roadless area designations if the Forest Service requires or recommends that roadless areas be managed as if they are Wilderness, or according to the same (or similar) travel restrictions that pertain to Wilderness.

6. Local land managers and the public must continue to play a role in recreation management of roadless areas.

7. Mountain bicycling should not be restricted in roadless areas unless scientific research demonstrates that the ecological impact of cycling is greater than that of other allowable recreation uses.

8. IMBA believes that bicycle use — a form of non-motorized recreation and transportation — is appropriate in, and consistent with, the purposes of roadless areas.

Effects Of Banning Road-Building

The Notice of Intent states that the environmental impact statement will examine two main issues. The first is the effects of eliminating road construction in roadless areas. IMBA asks the Forest Service to consider the outcome of the opposite action: the effects of constructing roads on the opportunities for mountain bicycling. Forest roads are typically built to support logging, mining and other industrial activities, or to access inholdings. These activities can degrade the quality of mountain bicycling experiences, discouraging visitation and hurting tourism.

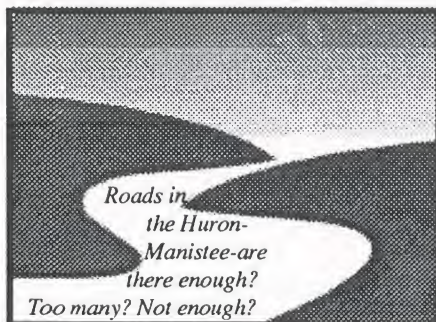
Ecological Values

The second issue under examination relates to social and ecological values that make roadless areas important. IMBA requests that the Forest Service

(continued next pg.)

examine how mountain biking relates to those values.

IMBA recognizes that all types of forest uses, including recreation, have ecological impacts. IMBA agrees with the Forest Service statement that roads and activities associated with roads can cause ecological problems. But we do not believe that the agency, or any scientist, can at this time reasonably distinguish the ecological impacts of different non-motorized recreation forms. While the effects on wildlife of people walking, running, horseback riding, or mountain bicycling are often argued, no science is available to compare these impacts. The complexity of this debate is significant. Among the many parameters of impact are duration, startling, and noise. Generally, hikers stay in areas the



longest, mountain bikers may startle more, and motorcycles create more noise, but there is little evidence to support any statements regarding the relative significance of these effects. The diversity of species affected makes the analysis more complex.

In the absence of scientific data, it would be an error to single out bicycling — or, for that matter, any other non-motorized trail use — as more harmful than another. Therefore, all four of the proposed alternatives for part one of the EIS ought to allow bicycling within roadless areas.

Social Values

The social values issue relates to diverse perceptions, opinions, and philosophies held by Americans. Some may believe that roadless areas are not proper places for bicycling because bicycles are “mechanical.” This is the reason bikes are banned in Wilderness under current interpretation of the Wilderness Act. IMBA maintains that “mechanical” transport is consistent with the values of roadless areas. The tenets of Wilderness management should not be applied to roadless areas.

Mountain bicycling is human powered, silent recreation. It helps

people appreciate and respect nature, motivating them to protect it. Nature needs a human constituency that includes mountain bicyclists.

Smaller, Uninventoried Roadless Areas

IMBA recommends that the agency adopt a rule or policy that encourages individual national forests to examine smaller roadless areas on a site-specific basis, with thorough public participation. A prohibition on road building in these areas could benefit bicyclists. Tongass National Forest

The Notice of Intent specifically requested comments on the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. IMBA believes that the proposed rule should apply to the Tongass, and the EIS should examine the effects of the rule in both parts one and two.

Motorized Recreation

IMBA requests that the Forest Service not lump bicycling into the motorized recreation category, both in terms of analysis and management actions. Bicycling is non-motorized and properly belongs within analysis and management of non-motorized recreation.

IMBA is concerned about the widening of singletrack trails by the travel of all-terrain-vehicles. ATVs are too wide for singletrack trails. Their wheelbase is typically 50 inches, whereas the tread width of most Forest Service singletrack is 12 to 36 inches. Bicyclists value the narrow character of singletrack and strongly object when ATVs cause such routes to widen. The wide routes created by ATV use are essentially roads. ATVs are not appropriate on narrow trails and should be prohibited within roadless areas.

Burden Of Proof

Among the four alternatives outlined in the Notice of Intent, the third may create an impossible standard for recreation by requiring that activities “contribute” to ecological values of roadless areas. What about allowing those activities that do not harm or interfere with ecological values? Vegetation management, trail maintenance, or stream restoration may enhance ecological values. But it is difficult to see how any human recreation can contribute to ecological values.

Protecting the Land with Cyclists’ Support

IMBA supports the Roadless Initiative because we believe it can protect natural, undisturbed areas and maintain bicycling opportunities. In addition, IMBA sees this Initiative as an

opportunity to create and implement a new, effective method of protecting Forest Service land. While IMBA can support the designation of some new Wilderness areas within national forests, we seek to protect land with legal tools that allow mountain bicycling. An official Roadless Area designation can be exactly that.

However, we will oppose Roadless Area designations if the Forest Service requires or recommends that roadless areas be managed as if they are Wilderness, or according to the same (or similar) travel restrictions that pertain to Wilderness. Such a requirement would eliminate the appeal of this designation as a supplement or alternative to Wilderness.

We hope that the Forest Service will recognize the value of creating something different than Wilderness. This would increase bicyclists’ support for the agency’s process and intent. Thanks for your consideration of these comments.

Best wishes,

Tim Blumenthal

IMBA Executive Director

COMMENT TO THE FOREST SERVICE:

USDA Forest Service-CAET
Attention: Roadless Areas NOI
P.O. Box 221090

Salt Lake City

Utah 84122

or by e-mail to [roadlessareasnoi/](mailto:roadlessareasnoi@wo_caet@www.fs.fed.us)

wo_caet@www.fs.fed.us.

READ MORE ONLINE:

Roadless Initiative announcement:
www.fs.fed.us/news/19991013.html

Federal Register Online:

http://gpo.lib.purdue.edu/GPOToc.cgi?action3Dtoc_retrieve&file3Dfr19oc99.dat.wais&offset3D371729

Other news: September 14-16, 2000

The National Mountain Conference:

A national conference to unite the human powered outdoor recreation community in protecting the mountain environment and public access.

Professionals and experienced

Volunteers will address:

- Mountain Resource Protection
- Recreational Impacts and Development Pressures on mountain areas.
- Backcountry Management

e-mail for more info:

melhov@landmarknet.net

TTC**Thank You!****Trails For Tomorrow Campaign**

Thank you all, for your vision and commitment towards making the Michigan Mountain Biking Association a stronger more effective organization in addressing the needs of development, care and protection of the trails and forests throughout Michigan. Your generosity will touch thousands of trail users throughout the year - Thank you.

Joseph Bodgett \$250.00**Leon Kirschner \$100.00****Dan Reinders \$100.00****\$50.00 Level**

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Brad Bennett

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Colleen Neering

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Ultrafuge



Centrifuge

photos by Charley Brooks, Wiley/Wales, Brandon Knapp

20
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Subaru and Festina Extend MMBA Sponsorship through 2000

The Michigan Mountain Biking Association ("MMBA") is extremely happy to report that auto maker, **Subaru** and timepiece maker, **Festina**, will remain Official Sponsors of the MMBA through the end of 2000. Subaru will continue with their blanket sponsorship of all MMBA activities, while Festina will continue as title sponsor of the MMBA's mountain bike race series.

"We are pleased to have quality companies such as Subaru and Festina back with us for 2000", said Jason Aric Jones, MMBA President. "These companies realize that the relationships established with the MMBA and its members are truly valuable to them. Their sponsorship is also extremely valuable to the MMBA, as it helps give us the resources we need to maintain and create quality trail systems. It is our hope that one day some of the major players in our own (cycling) industry will step forward and support regional, state, and local grassroots mountain bike trails advocacy at a level similar to that of these non-endemic sponsors," said Jones.

The MMBA is a nine chapter 501(c)(3) corporation nearing 2000 members. The organization's mission is to promote responsible mountain biking in Michigan; working toward the goals of common land access and natural resource protection through interaction with policy makers, the cycling industry, race promoters, mountain bikers and other trail users. Please contact the MMBA at (616) 785-0120, or, gommmba@aol.com for additional information.



See You At The Dome! The Silverdome that is. Thanks to the hard work of Patti Brehler and Andy Andersen of Prestige Cycles (Clinton Twp. MI), the MMBA, League of MI Cyclists and Rails-to-Trails of MI will have a booth (a big, big booth) at the annual **R.V. (Recreational Vehicle) Show at the Pontiac Silverdome from January 26 through January 30.** With an estimated 30,000 people attending the show we hope to inform, educate and attract new organization members and get people excited about bicycling in Michigan. We've dubbed the joint project "**Bicycle Michigan: Great Lakes-Great Rides!**" Stop in and see us!

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